

Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

-Lee Holloway -

Chairman of the Board

October 28, 2010 For Immediate Release

Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager 414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

BUILDING SAFETY CONCERNS RAISED IN COUNTY AUDIT

Clear policy necessary to ensure public safety in County facilities

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway released the following statement after reviewing an <u>Audit</u> on Building Safety Inspections issued this week:

"After reviewing this Audit, which I had requested the day after the O'Donnell Park tragedy, it is clear that Milwaukee County needs to establish a clear and consistent policy to assess and inspect buildings in all departments across the County.

"This report does underscore the importance of assessing all of our buildings in the County to keep residents and visitors safe. It is concerning that, out of the 34 buildings selected in this audit sample, only seven had been assessed from a safety standpoint. Even those that were assessed have a number of significant deficiencies that have not yet been addressed.

"This report is an eye-opener for County policymakers and residents. I thank County Auditor Jerome Heer and his staff for following through on this audit, which I hope is a wake-up call for the Administration to step up their inspection efforts. The County Board can play a key role in developing a more structured policy for inspecting buildings, especially focusing on conditions that could lead to potential safety issues."

###